

Acknowledgement

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STRANGE BEHAVIOUR OF THE LARVAE OF MALACOSOMA NEUSTRIA L. (THE LACKEY). — On the night of 26th June 1978, I noticed a larva crawling around the rim of a street light near my house. With the aid of a net fixed to an eight-foot garden cane, I managed to retrieve it, when I found it to be a nearly full grown larva of *M. neustria*. At the time I thought little of it, but on 6th July I found another *neustria* larva purposely crawling up the column of light (the height of which is at least 16 feet). I found another larva there the following night, and one on each of the nights of the 12th and 13th July, all at approximately 2230 hours. Incidentally, the species breeds on hawthorn bushes in my area, and there is such a bush less than eight feet from the street light. Could it be that besides the moth, the larva of *neustria* is also attracted to light? — D. DEY, 9 Monmouth Close, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 7BQ.

A NOTE FROM THE ISLE OF CANNA. — Butterflies have been flourishing here since 1975; 1976 and 1977, and the six weeks up to June 21st 1978 having provided a great deal of sunshine. *Polyommatus icarus* Rott. has been abundant; *Vanessa urticae* L. has become very common. *Argynnis aglaja* L. and *Boloria selene* D. & S. have increased, and *Pararge aegeria* L. has really taken root and for the first time produced a spring brood here in 1977. *Zygaena filipendulae* L. has been abundant, and *Z. purpuralis* Brünnich appeared in large numbers in a new locality on our southern cliffs last month after several years of extreme scarcity in its former localities.

Moths have not been so numerous, though there was a great influx of *Cerapteryx graminis* L. in August 1977. *Noctua pronuba* L. has been going through an unlamented period of recession. Need to economise on gasoil has limited the operation of the m.v. trap considerably. — J. L. CAMPBELL, Isle of Canna, Hebrides, 20.vii.1978.